

Appl. No. 10/000,038
Amdt. Dated November 7, 2005
Reply to Office action of August 5, 2005
Attorney Docket No. P13043-US1
EUS/J/P/05-3279

Amendments to the Drawings:

The attached sheets of drawings include changes to Figures 1 and 2.

A Submittal of Drawing Replacement Sheet(s) is being filed concurrently herewith under a separate cover. For your convenience, a copy of that filing is attached.

Attachment: Drawing Replacement Sheets

Copy of Transmittal of Drawing Replacement Sheets

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REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claim Amendments

The Applicant has amended claims 3 and 6; claims 1, 2, 4 and 5 have been cancelled. Applicant respectfully submits no new matter has been added. Accordingly, claims 3 and 6 are pending in the application. Favorable reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

Examiner Objections – Drawings

The Drawings were objected to because Figures 1 - 2, are not designated by a legend such as "Prior Art". Corrected drawings are enclosed. The Examiner's approval of the drawing change is respectfully requested.

Examiner Objections – Specification

The specification was objected to because of improper language and format for the abstract of the disclosure. The Applicant thanks the Examiner for his careful review of the specification. In response, the Applicant has modified the specification as suggested by the Examiner. The Examiner's consideration of the amendments to the specification is respectfully requested.

Examiner Objections - Claims

Claims 1-6 were objected to because of informalities. The Applicant appreciates the Examiner's thorough review of the claims. The Applicant has amended the claims as suggested by the Examiner in order to correct the informalities. The Examiner's consideration of the amended claims is respectfully requested.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 102(e)

Claims 1-2 and 4-5 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Christensen, et al. (US 6,072,796). In order to expedite allowance of this application, the Applicant has canceled claims 1-2 and 4-5 without prejudice. Therefore, this rejection with respect to these claims is deemed to be moot.

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Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 112

Claims 1-6 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter as the invention. Claims 1, 2, 4 and 5, have been cancelled rendering the rejection of these claims moot. The informalities of claims 3 and 6 have been corrected in accordance with the Examiner's suggestions.

Allowable Subject Matter

The Applicant notes with appreciation the conditional allowance of claims 3 and 6. As the Examiner has suggested, claims 3 and 6 have been rewritten in independent form including all limitations of the base claims and any intervening claims. Therefore no amendments have been made to narrow the scope of the pending claims or to create any sort of estoppel and the Applicant respectfully requests the withdrawal of the rejection of claims 3 and 6.

Prior Art Not Relied Upon

In paragraph 10 on page 7 of the Office Action, the Examiner stated that the prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to the Applicant's disclosure.

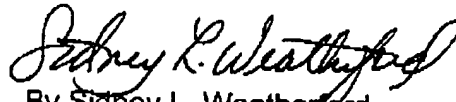
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CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing remarks, the Applicant believes all of the claims currently pending in the Application to be in a condition for allowance. The Applicant, therefore, respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw all rejections and issue a Notice of Allowance for all pending claims.

The Applicant requests a telephonic interview if the Examiner has any questions or requires any additional information that would further or expedite the prosecution of the Application.

Respectfully submitted,



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